

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ,GOV, WB, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR BONN GROUP STUDY OF BERLIN
VIABILITY

1. QUADRIpartite APPROVAL OF THE OPTIONS SECTION OF THE
BOON GROUP STUDY ON FOREIGN REPRESENTATION AT THE
MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BRUSSELS REPRESENTED, IN THE
DEPT'S VIEW, AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS ESTABLISHING
A COMMON BASIS FOR ALLIED AND FRG ACTIVITIES TO
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ENHANCE THE INDEPENDENCE AND VIABILITY OF BERLIN. WE
SUPPORT FULLY THE CONCEPT OF THIS COMMON BASIS ENUNCIATED
BY THE GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE IN BRUSSELS, AND BELIEVE
THAT AN ATTEMPT SHOULD BE MADE TO CONTINUE JOINT
EXAMINATION OF IMPORTANT ISSUES.
THIS MESSAGE PROPOSES THAT THE NEXT AREA TO RECEIVE BONN
GROUP ATTENTION SHOULD BE THE ENTIRE QUESTION OF THE

ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF BERLIN.

2. IN OUR VIEW, ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF THE STUDY ON FOREIGN REPRESENTATION WAS THE INSIGHT THE PAPER PROVIDED INTO THE WAYS IN WHICH THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE BERLIN SITUATION HAVE BECOME SO CLOSELY INTERTWINED. DECISIONS TAKEN ON POLITICAL MATTERS SUCH AS INVITATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OR BERLIN'S TIES TO THE EC ARE COMING INCREASINGLY TO AFFECT THE ECONOMIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION OF THE CITY. CONVERSELY, IF THE FRG AND THE THREE POWERS ARE TO BE ABLE INTELLIGENTLY TO JUDGE POLITICAL ISSUES AFFECTING BERLIN, THEY SHOULD BE MORE WELL INFORMED ABOUT THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE BERLIN SITUATION THAN HAS HERETOFORE BEEN THE CASE.

3. AS AN INITIAL APPROACH TO THIS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE BERLIN SITUATION, THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THE BONN GROUP SHOULD ANALYZE THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE SAME MANNER AS IT DID WITH THE QUESTIONS OF FOREIGN REPRESENTATION LAST FALL. SUCH A STUDY WOULD IN OUR VIEW HAVE THREE OBJECTIVES: A) TO PROVIDE A CONCISE DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTIVE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN BERLIN AT PRESENT AND OF PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE; B) TO DESCRIBE THE ISSUES WHICH MUST BE TREATED IN COMING MONTHS AND YEARS; AND C) TO GIVE AN IDEA OF WHAT, IF ANYTHING, THE THREE POWERS CAN DO TO SUPPORT FRG AND SENAT EFFORTS TO GUARANTEE THE VIABILITY OF BERLIN.

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4. THIS LATTER POINT IS, IN THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. FROM A PRACTICAL AS WELL AS POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW, IT IS CRUCIAL THAT THE MAJOR GERMAN ROLE IN THE VIABILITY PROGRAM CONTINUE. BUT AS NOTED BY US REPS AT THE DECEMBER MEETINGS, THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THE TIME HAS NOW COME FOR INCREASED EFFORTS TO FIND IMAGINATIVE WAYS OF DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF BERLIN VIABILITY WHICH DO NOT NECESSARILY RELATE TO QUESTIONS OF QA IMPLEMENTATION. IF WE ARE TO FIND NEW WAYS OF DEALING WITH THE SITUATION, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT POSSIBILITIES WHICH PROVIDE OR INCREASED ALLIED INVOLVEMENT ALSO BE EXPLORED.

5. THE GOAL OF SUCH A STUDY WOULD BE TO PRESENT A PAPER TO MINISTERS AT THE MAY MINISTERIAL. WHILE WE HAVE NO FIRM VIEWS ON THE CONTENT OF SUCH A STUDY, THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME AREAS WHICH OCCUR TO US S WARRANTING INCLUSION:

-- BRIE ASSESSMENT OF OVERALL ECONOMIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SITUATION IN BERLIN AND PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE.

-- CATALOGUE OF MEASURES ALREADY BEING TAKEN BY GERMAN SIDE TO AID VIABILITY OF CITY.

-- ASSESSMENT OF IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS WHICH AFFECT VIABILITY.

-- DISCUSSION OF PRESENT ALLIED ROLE AND PROPOSALS FOR ADDITIONAL ALLIED PARTICIPATION.

-- CONCRETE PROPOSALS OF AREAS WHERE ALLIES MIGHT BE OF ASSISTANCE. SOME POSSIBLE AREAS INCLUDE:

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(A) FOREIGN INVESTMENT--ARE LAWS OF ALLIED COUNTRIES DESIGNED TO ALLOW ALLIED FIRMS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF INVESTMENT PREFERENCES OFFERED BY FRG?

(B) CONGRESS CENTER--CAN ALLIES HELP IN MAKING IT A SUCCESS?

(C) HOTELS--DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS BERLIN SUFFERS FROM SHORTAGE OF FIRST CLASS HOTELS, ACE. CAN ALLIES HELP WITH HOTEL COMPANIES?

(D) TOURISM--IS PROMOTION SUFFICIENT? CAN PACKAGES BE PUT TOGETHER WITH ALLIES CARRIERS?

(E) UNIVERSITIES/RESEARCH--CAN EXCHANGE PACKAGES BE PUT TOGETHER TO STIMULATE DEVELOPMENT OF BERLIN AS INTELLECTUAL CENTER?

(F) CULTURE--SHOULD THERE BE MORE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE THREE POWERS TO ASSURE A WIDER OFFERING OF CULTURAL PROGRAMS IN BERLIN? LAST MINUTE DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING US ENTRY FOR 1976 BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL ARE AN EXAMPLE OF PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA.

(G) PUBLIC INFORMATION--IS THERE ENOUGH INFORMATION IN THREE-POWER COUNTRIES ABOUT BERLIN AS ATTRACTIVE MODERN CITY? WOULD TOURS BY ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL JOURNALISTS HELP? SHOULD THERE BE ADDITIONAL EFFORTS TO FOCUS WORLD ATTENTION ON ATTRACTIONS OF BERLIN?

(H) ALLIED LAWS AND PRACTICES--ARE THERE ANY AS WHERE ALLIED PRACTICES OR CONCERN FOR ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE HINDERING BERLIN VIABILITY? ARE CHANGES POSSIBLE?

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(I) ROLE OF ALLIED MISSIONS--DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS SEVERAL STUDY GROUPS ARE AT WORK IN BERLIN ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE VIABILITY PROBLEM. IS OR SHOULD THERE BE PARTICIPATION OF ALLIED MISSIONS; OR SHOULD MATTER REMAIN PURELY AS A BERLIN AND FRG UNDERTAKING? IF THE MISSIONS DID PARTICIPATE, SHOULD AN INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM BE ESTABLISHED?

6. METHOD OF PROCEEDING: DEPARTMENT HAS NO FIRM VIEWS ON HOW STUDY SHOULD BE PUT TOGETHER. WE BELIEVE THAT, IF THE BONN GROUP CONCURS, THE BERLIN MISSIONS AND SENATE MIGHT BE ASKED TO DO FIRST DRAFT OF MORE SUBSTANTIVE PORTIONS WHICH COULD BE DISCUSSED IN BONN GROUP BEFORE BEING PASSED TO CAPITALS. WE ARE, HOWEVER, OPEN TO ANY REASONABLE WAY OF CONDUCTING PROJECT. AS NOTED ABOVE, GOAL WOULD BE TO PRESENT ANALYSIS AND CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS TO SENIOR OFFICIALS AND MINISTERS AT MAY MEETING.

7. EMBASSY SHOULD PRESENT DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL AT NEXT BONN GROUP MEETING. SINCE OUR WISH IS TO HAVE A PAPER OR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT QUADRANT MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS IN MAY, PREPARATION OF THE STUDY WOULD HAVE TO BEGIN VERY SOON. AS WITH THE STUDY ON REPRESENTATION, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO REACH A COMPLETELY AGREED PAPER BEFORE THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. TO FACILITATE COMPLETION OF THE STUDY, THE DEPARTMENT IS WILLING TO CONSIDER ANY REASONABLE PROPOSALS FOR CONTENT AND METHODOLOGY.

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